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SIMTEK6260


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

In re Application of
Tomitaka Yamashita

App. No.: 09/683822
Filed: February 20, 2002
Conf. No.: 7485
Title: SIGNAL INSPECTION DEVICE
Examiner: M. Charioui
Art Unit: 2857

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
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April 3, 2004


Ernest A. Beutler
Reg. No. 19901

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Dear Sir:

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action, dated January 16, 2004, attached hereto is a proposed drawing correction for FIG. 4, which labels the components as requested by the Examiner. If this is acceptable it will be submitted formally.

Turning to the new art rejection based upon Steiner, it is believed that no amendment to the claims is required to distinguish over this reference. Applicant's invention relates to a test device which is initially loaded with a program from a personal computer (PC) and thereafter does not require the presence of the PC in order to perform its testing function. This is emphasized in the two independent claims and is further stressed in dependent claim 2.

Steiner, on the other hand, will not operate to perform any testing without the continued presence of the PC. The portions of the reference referred to by the Examiner do not support his allegations. The abstract of this patent clearly states that the device is a "battery operated microcomputer controlled programmable circuit testing device". The device will in no way operate to test electrical devices without the presence and continuing control of the PC. Almost the entire description of the testing apparatus and its method of operation make it clear that the presence and operation of the PC is required to perform any testing operation. Nowhere in the reference is stated that once the programmable interface is programmed that the PC can be removed and testing operations can be performed.